This volume shows no diminution of the enthusiasm so characteristic of the previous works of this author and, giving evidence of increased descriptive powers, possesses an interest which must appeal not alone to the ornithologist but also to those who cannot claim even a passing acquaintance with birds.

Indeed the reviewer can instance the case of a reader who, though unable to recognize three species of birds in the field, on chancing to pick up this little volume, was so fascinated that he eagerly read to the end.

As accurate records of painstaking, conscientious work, Mrs. Miller's observations have permanent scientific worth, but it is as a voice teaching the beauties of bird-life that her words have their chief value. She does not tell us what she has read or heard of, but what she has seen, and she does this so attractively that it will be strange indeed if among her readers there be not some who will be induced to go afield and find for themselves that nature is one great inexhaustible volume whose charms no writer can adequately portray.

That Mrs. Miller appreciates the necessity of accuracy is evident, and we regret to see, therefore, that her careful work should be marred by obvious errors in identification. Thus the Towhee found breeding at Colorado Springs was probably *Pipilo maculatus megalonyx*, not *P. erythrophthalmus;* the Horned Lark seen there in June was doubtless *Otocoris alpestris arenicola*, not the more boreal *Otocoris alpestris leucolæma*, while the Hummingbird recorded from the same locality as *Trochilus colubris* may have been *Selasphorus platycercus*. Again, the Grackle of Ohio is the Bronzed, not the Purple, variety.—F. M. C.

The Birds of Kentucky.[1]—This is an unfortunate addition to the number of faunal lists by compilers who have a very limited knowledge of birds and less of the literature of ornithology. The author states that it is based on observations and collections made in various parts of the State "since July, 1889," and adds that "the original list, as thus prepared, has been extended by including species observed by Audubon [and] by Beckham in Spencer [*lege* Nelson] County." It appears that about one-half of the 253 species given have been included on the authority of these ornithologists.

The author ignores trinomials and thus commits the error of giving such European species as *Certhia familiaris*, *Loxia curvirostra*, *Corvus corax*, etc., a place in the Kentucky fauna, while *Turdus aonalaschkæ*, *T. ustulatus*, *Peucæa æstivalis* and others are introduced in the same way. "*Sylvania* (?) *microcephala* Ridgway" and *Dendræca carbonata* Audubon are evidently admitted as species which may have claims to recognition, and *Aphelocoma floridana* is given on the basis of its having "said to have been taken in Kentucky."

[1] A Preliminary List of the Vertebrate Animals of Kentucky. By H. Garman, Lexington, Ky. Bull. Essex Inst., XXVI, 1894, pp. 1–63. Birds, pp. 7–33.

The author is apparently not familiar with Pindar's 'List of the Birds of Fulton County, Kentucky,'[1] which contains some twenty-one species not mentioned in the present list. In the present state of ornithological knowledge there is no excuse for work of this kind, and it would have been better, not alone for the reputation of the author, but for the cause of science, had he submitted his manuscript to a competent reviser. The author's conservatism in excluding species for which he had not at least some record and placing them in a separate list of 'Additional Species which may occur in Kentucky,' is the only thing to be said in his favor.—F. M. C.

Cherrie on Costarican Birds.[2]—This paper is based on collections and observations made in southern Costa Rica from November, 1891, until April, 1892. It enumerates 199 species, 14 of which are new to the apparently inexhaustible avifauna of Costa Rica. Of this number four species are considered as new to science; three of these have been characterized in previous papers, while one, *Henicorhina pittieri*, is here described for the first time.

The annotations under each species consist of a statement of the number of individuals collected at the various localities visited, remarks upon variations in plumage, and brief notes on habits and comparative abundance or rarity.—F. M. C.

Jouy on Central Mexican Birds.[3]—The late Mr. Jouy landed at Tampico, October 13, 1891, and proceeded to St. Luis Potosi, where he remained until the following January. He then continued his journey to Guadalajara where he was resident for seven months. From these two points he made numerous more or less extended excursions into the surrounding country, making collections and observations on which the present paper is largely based, though several species are included "which were collected at Guaymas, on the Gulf of California, and also a few from the mountains in Sonora, 32 miles south of the border town of Nogales."

This list numbers 111 species of which 11 are water-birds. *Catharus melpomene clarus* (Barranca Ibarra, Jalisco), *Psaltriparus melanotis iulus* (Hacienda El Molino, Jalisco), and *Spinus psaltria croceus* (Panama) are described as new forms, while *Basileuterus rufifrons jouyi* has been previously described by Mr. Ridgway.

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[1] The Auk, VI, 1889, pp. 310–316.

[2] Exploraciones zoológicas efectuadas en la parte meridional de Costa Rica por los anos de 1891–1892. I. Aves, por Geo. K. Cherrie. Taxidermista del Museo Nacional. 1893. San José de Costa Rica. Tip. Nacional. 12mo. pp. 1–59.

[3] Notes on Birds of Central Mexico, with Descriptions of Forms Believed to be New. By P. L. Jouy. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVI, 1894, pp. 771–791.